

*History*

75th ANNIVERSARY

LADIES' LITERARY CLUB

Ypsilanti, Michigan

1878 + 1953

CITY OF YPSILANTI  
HISTORICAL COLLECTIONS

From Mrs. P. E. Skinner estate  
1964

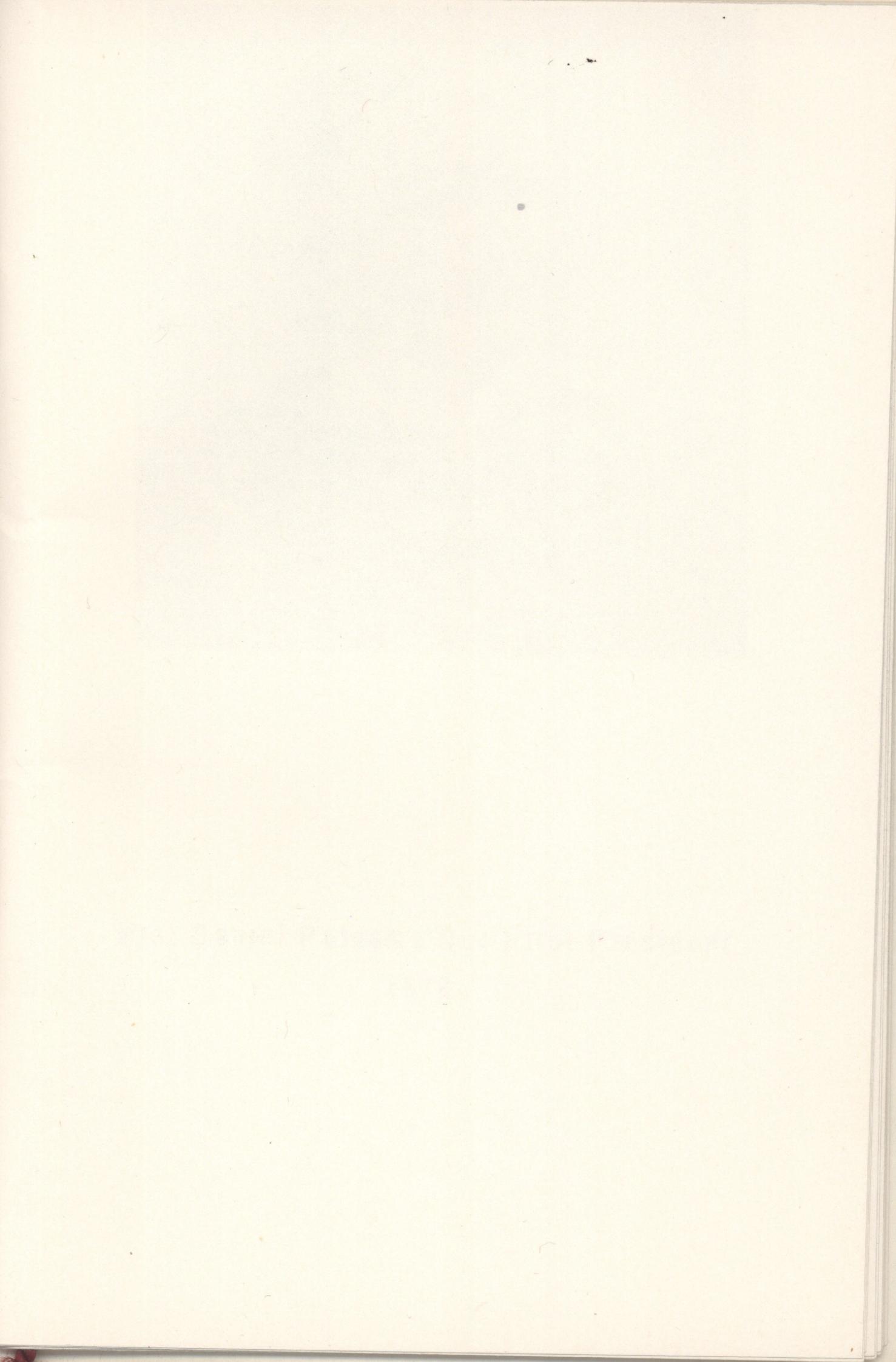
75th ANNIVERSARY OF THE LADIES' LITERARY CLUB  
Ypsilanti, Michigan

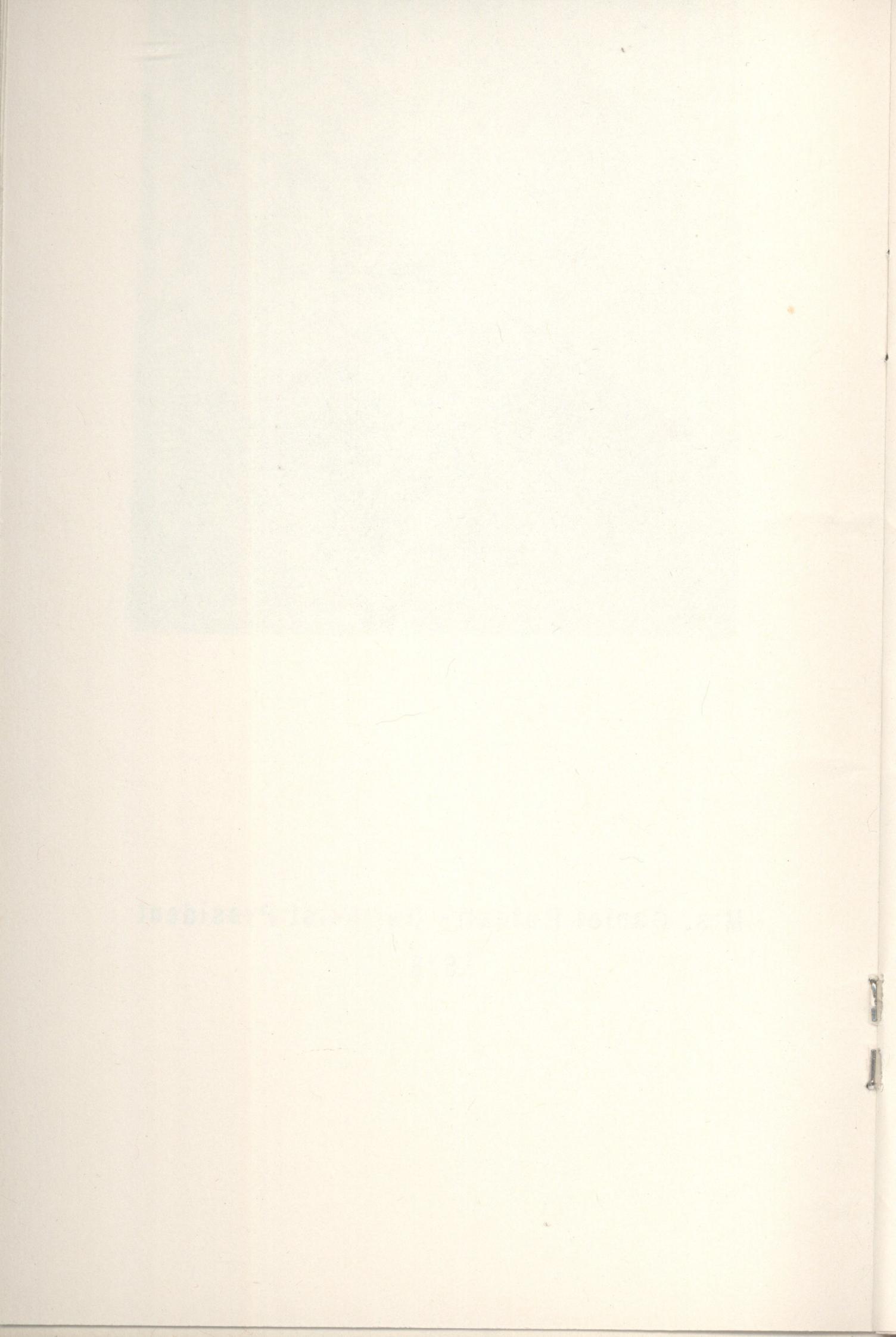
1878 - 1953

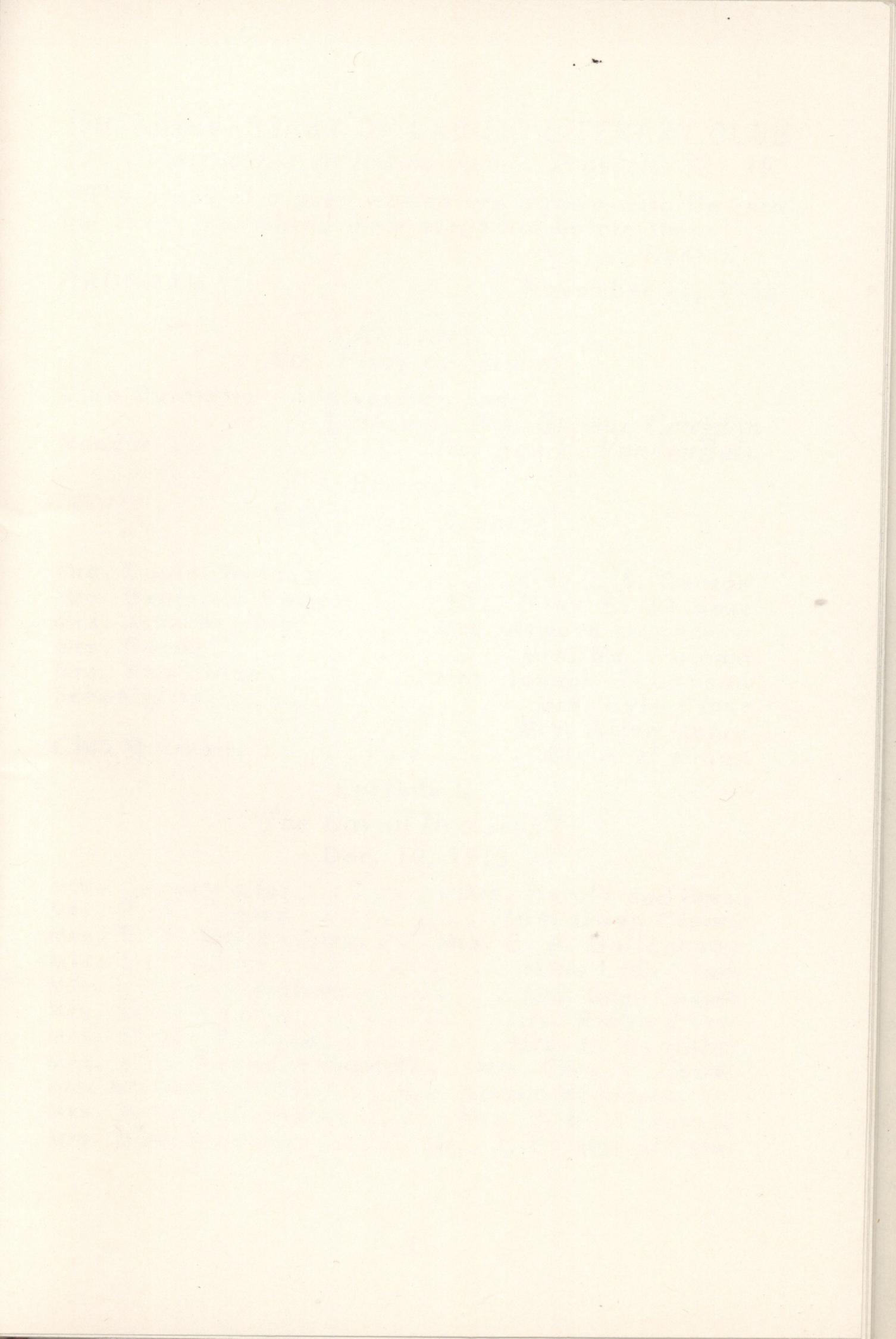
100 YEARS OLD LIBRARY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

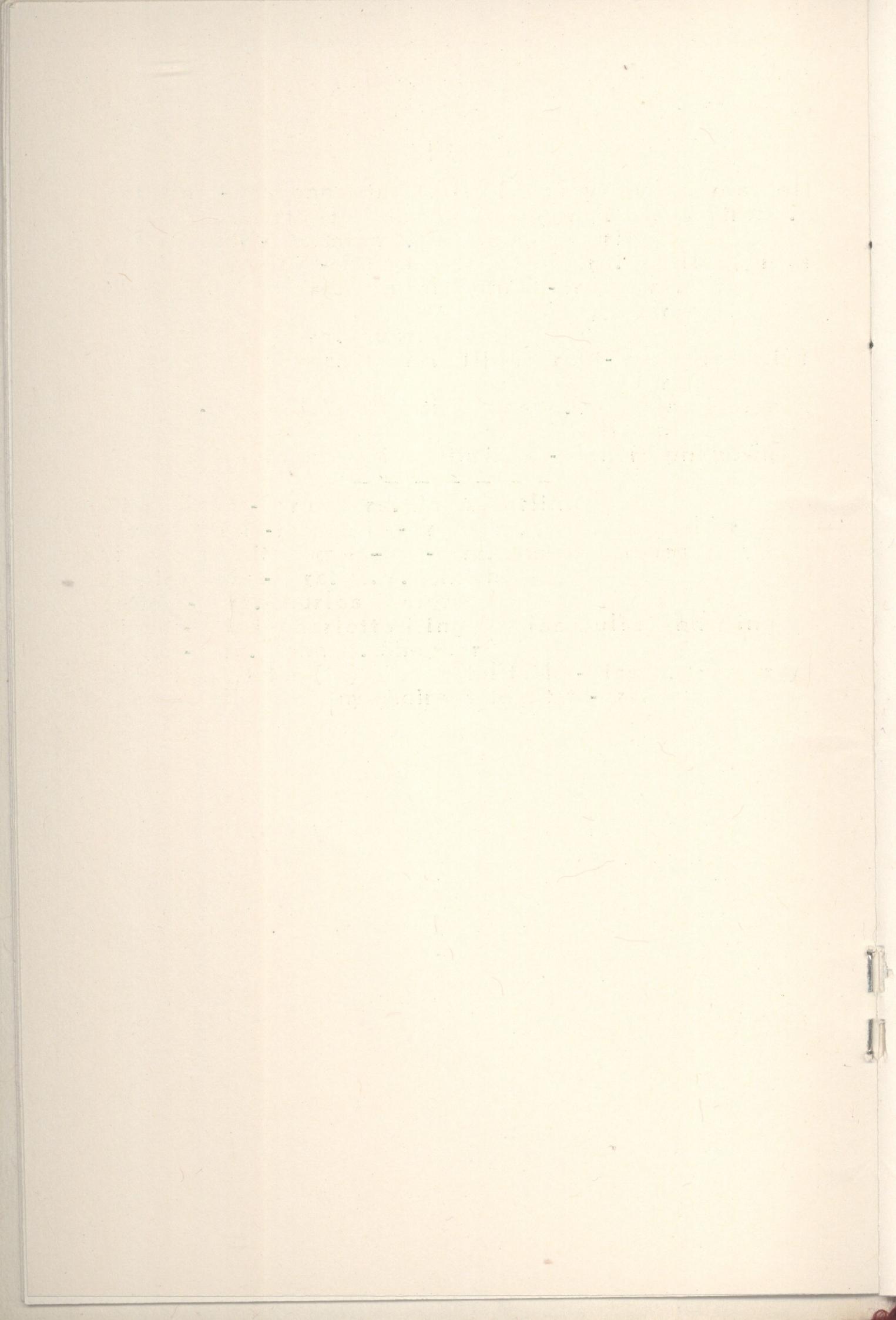
650 UNIVERSITY AVENUE

1882-1982









# 75th ANNIVERSARY OF LADIES' LITERARY CLUB

"... their works do follow them." *Proverbs 32 - 19*

"The steps of a good woman are strewn with flowers,  
but they rise behind their steps not before them."

Ruskin

## PROGRAM

November 11, 1953

### PAGEANT *Mrs. Pliny E. Skinner*

Club Quintette - Anniversary song

Lyrics by *Mrs. Eugene Congdon*

Reader . . . . . *Mrs. Ben H. VandenBelt*

#### Episode I

#### "*The Ladies Resolve*" - 1878 -

Mrs. Daniel Putnam. . . . . Mrs. E. S. George

Mrs. Benjamin Follett. . . . . Mrs. Pliny E. Skinner

Mrs. John Watling. . . . . Mrs. Atwood McAndrew

Mrs. Bacon. . . . . Mrs. Wm. Putnam

Mrs. Wm. Paine. . . . . Mrs. Joseph Thompson

Schoolgirls. . . . . Mrs. Lyle Frost

Mrs. Allan Moore

Club Quintette . . . . . Group of songs

#### Episode II

#### "*The Day of Decision*"

- Dec. 10, 1913 -

Mrs. Bennett Kief. . . . . Mrs. Harold deB Barss

Mrs. P. R. Cleary . . . . . Mrs. Owen Cleary

Mrs. E. A. Mellencamp. . . . . Mrs. E. A. Mellencamp

Miss Lida Clark . . . . . Miss Lida Clark

Mrs. Louise Humphrey . . . . . Mrs. Gage Cooper

Mrs. Sarah George . . . . . Mrs. Richard Weir

Mrs. Florus Barbour. . . . . Mrs. L. E. Burns

Mrs. Kate Thompson Westfall. . . . . Mrs. Chas. W. Hester

Mrs. Atwood McAndrew. . . . . Mrs. Atwood McAndrew Jr.

Mrs. John P. Everett. . . . . Mrs. J. B. Shepherd

Mrs. Nate Wallace. . . . . Mrs. J. E. Mac Allister

Episode III

"The House Warming"  
- 1914 -

Mrs. Frederick Gorton \_\_\_\_\_ Mrs. Spencer Davis  
Mrs. Fannie Cheever Burton \_\_\_\_\_ Mrs. E. G. Wiedman  
Members "bringing gifts"  
Solo - "God Bless This House" - Mrs. Carroll Curtis

Episode IV

"Burning of the Mortgage"  
- 1928 -

Mrs. Alex Longnecker \_\_\_\_\_ President  
Mrs. Harold deE Barss \_\_\_\_\_ Vice President  
Mrs. C. V. Brown \_\_\_\_\_ Parliamentarian

Episode V

Street Scene

- 1950 -

Mrs. Elton Rynearson and Mrs. Noble Lee Garrison

Episode VI

Tableau  
1953

"Close the book, the story is told;  
Lay it away with a smile and a tear.  
Written in black or written in gold  
We open the book of a glad new year?"

## Committees

General Chairman..... Mrs. Ben H. VandenBelt

Publicity..... Mrs. J. Robt. Dawson  
Mrs. Jas. Glasgow

Pageant..... Mrs. Pliny E. Skinner, Author  
Mrs. Atwood McAndrew  
Mrs. Fred Wilber

Casting and Directing..... Mrs. Owen Cleary  
Mrs. E. S. George  
Mrs. A. N. Damoose

Costumes..... Mrs. Pliny E. Skinner

Music..... Mrs. Richard Weir  
Mrs. Maurice Riley

Brochure..... Mrs. Elton Rynearson

Invitations..... Mrs. Alex Longnecker  
Mrs. Fred Wilber

Decorations and Exhibits..... Mrs. Harold deB Barss

### Club Quintette-

Mrs. Carroll Curtis      Mrs. Lyle W. Frost

Mrs. George Elliott      Mrs. Bradley M. Harris

Mrs. Reuben I. Seime      Mrs. T. Fred Olden-  
Accompanist

Club History... Mrs. Pliny E. Skinner

THE LADIES' LITERARY CLUB  
Ypsilanti, Michigan  
1878-1953

It was in 1878 that the Ladies' Literary Club of Ypsilanti, Michigan was organized. It is among the ten oldest clubs in the state that came into existence in the 1870's and 1880's. Rutherford B. Hayes was then President of the United States, and a young man at Menlo Park, New Jersey, had created a sensation by saying that he had perfected a practical system for lighting dwellings and public buildings by means of the electric current; Henry Ford was regarded as a dreamer, and many of the men who have made aviation history were yet unborn.

A woman was not welcome in the business world in this period and few professions opened doors to her; she did not have the right of franchise or equal property rights. True, she was queen in her own home and she was placed on a pedestal by men in whom the spirit of chivalry still existed.

Because Ypsilanti had a fine Seminary and a College for the training of teachers, education and culture were held in high esteem. At this time Ypsilanti was being rapidly enlarged by the arrival of families from the eastern states who brought their culture and educational abilities to this city with a Greek cognomen which they had, perhaps, selected because "The glory that was Greece" might one day be her heritage.

The women or "ladies" of the growing city resolved not to be left behind their husbands and children. They, too, would improve their minds and pursue culture and learn the fine art of living.

As early as 1861 a group of women read "Humes History of England" and later studies the plays of Shakespeare. Now the time seemed propitious to organize a literary Club. Many of the women had been active in the Home Association organized in 1857 to help the needy; they had established a library in the city, and as they worked in the rooms they had furnished with rugs and chairs and well-filled bookcases, many of them gifts of the Detroit Library, and individual donors, they discussed the possibility of organizing a literary club. Mrs. Daniel Putnam suggested the plan to her co-workers.

"Mrs. Follett", Mrs. Putnam would say, "we need a literary society here similar to the one to which I belonged in Kalamazoo before coming to this city".

"But", Mrs. Follett replied, "there you had Lucinda Hinsdale Stone to lead you, but who will be our leader here?"

"I can do it if no one else can be found, Mrs. Follett. What do you think, Mrs. Watling?"

"I think it is a fine idea, Mrs. Putnam."

"Then we will proceed with our plan. Our Superintendent of Schools, Mr. William Paine and Mrs. Paine are interested in the educational life of the city and, I am sure, will help us with the organization of such a group".

So with the inspiration and leadership of Mrs. Putnam, the idea grew into reality, and Mrs. Putnam was blind.

The preliminary meeting was held on May 7, 1878, at the home of Mrs. Paine, 206 South Washington Street, once a schoolhouse and now the home of Dr. and Mrs. Bradley Harris. The house has some of the original walls which add to the historic value of this fine residence.

Mrs. Putnam had asked Mrs. Elvira Follett and Mrs. John Watling to act with her on the plans for the organization of the club. By the month of June they were able to call together seventeen ladies in the library rooms of the Arcade Building and they began the study of Africa, its geography, resources, art and literature.

The first meetings that were held followed their work in the Library from four to six o'clock. At the first meeting Mrs. Daniel Putnam was made president; at the second meeting Mrs. John Watling was elected Recording Secretary and twenty-two ladies were present, but by July the number in attendance had grown to thirty-seven. In the Fall a Constitution was prepared and adopted. Very little business was conducted in the early years.

The following are the names of the seventeen women who attended the first meeting:

1. Mrs. Daniel Putnam, The Club Mother
2. Mrs. Clinton Spencer (Mary C. Wilson, daughter of Rev. J. A. Wilson, Episcopal Rector.) Mr. Spencer was a Captain in the Civil War.
3. Mrs. A. F. Kinne, wife of Dr. Kinne. (She was Jennie Bristol, "a woman of deep understanding".) She was the first woman on the School Board.
4. Mrs. Erastus Sampson "The patient sufferer, much loved".
5. Mrs. John Sampson, "A genial presence".

6. Mrs. John S. Jenness, who was Miss Emma A. Ellis, daughter of Elijah Ellis for whom Ellis Street was named.
7. Mrs. W. H. Crawford, "Through a long illness always interested in the Club".
8. Mrs. Frances Holmes, "A faithful Librarian".
9. Mrs. Francis K. Rexford, (Harriet N. Long), wife of Dr. Rexford, who was Post Master 1845-1849.
10. Mrs. Henry Redner
11. Mrs. John Watling, wife of Dr. Watling. She was one of the organizers of The Daughters of the American Revolution Society and the Ladies' Library Association in this city as well as active in the organization of the Ladies' Literary Club.
12. Miss Hattie Weed, "A sweet, devoted soul" daughter of Rev. I. M. Weed.
13. Miss Helen Post, a teacher.
14. Miss Delia Compton, "Popular with many friends".
15. Miss Roccena Norris, "A gifted artist".
16. Miss Sarah Owen, "She had national interests".
17. Dr. Ruth A. French, who moved to California.

The name, "Ladies Literary Club" was chosen by common consent, as the name "woman" was then applied to the kitchen maids and not to the mistress of the house.

In the first years the meetings were held in the pleasant homes of members or in the rooms at the Library in the Arcade Building. The hours from four to six on Tuesdays were soon changed to Mondays from three to five.

They had embarked on a very ambitious program and it led them on their literary and historical journeys to many interesting places and enlivened the daily routine work of their lives.

In 1879 and 1880 they read and studied the French

Revolution; then followed a thorough study of Germany; in 1883-1884 they entered the Tudor period followed in 1884-1885 by the After Tudor Period; they studied Rome in 1885-1886 and its antiquities; Spain, 1886-1887; Greece, 1887-1888; the next year they took pleasant journeys through Great Britain and studied about its geography, its people, its great writers and the famous cathedrals. They acquainted themselves with Thomas A. Becket, Burke and Goldsmith, Moore, John Knox, and Wordsworth and Coleridge, George Eliot and Walter Savage Landor and Matthew Arnold and Hannah Moore. The ladies made literary pilgrimages to Stratford-on-Avon, to Canterbury and Oxford and they visited Melrose Abbey "by the pale moonlight".

In 1889 and 1890 they were still taking "Journeys Through Britain" and the following year attention was centered on the south of England; Spain was studied further in 1891-1892; then the following two years the country of Italy was studied, the year book of 1894-1895 was oblong in white with a blue inset with the picture of an obelisk as the country being studies was Egypt.

The meetings were now held on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays at three P.M. at the Library and in the homes of members as before. From 1896 to 1898 the subjects pursued were English Literature, Social Problems, Art, French Painting and Sociology with each subject lasting a club year. Then for a time the study turned to American Art with special reference to artists and sculptors of the Colonial and Revolutionary periods.

A change is noted in the type of programs at this time as the members discussed "Equality", "The Kindergarten", "Shall the People Own the Telegraph?", "Sanitation in the Home", "Manual Training in the Schools", "University Extension" and "Our City Charter". However in 1899-1900 they studied Holland and a Dutch wind-mill appeared on the cover of the year book, and the subject was followed the next

year with a drawing of a tulip on the cover. On the margin was noted in pencil the death of Queen Victoria (1901). The programs became more varied and a music committee was added in 1908 and now from entirely literary programs musicals were added.

The changes came, no doubt, as the Club began to broaden its activities which included civic affairs and political issues were often discussed. This change came about at the time that the Club joined the National Federation of Women's Clubs in January of 1896 and the Michigan State Federation later the same year. This action came about through the insistence of Mrs. John Watling who always had the best interests of the Club in mind. From this time on the members acting as a group began to try to shape public policies. Miss Julia Ann King expressed this by saying to the members, "Ye are the salt of the earth; you are a city set on a hill because you hold in your hearts the love of humanity."

From a self-centered group seeking self-improvement they extended their interests in national and worldwide affairs. Some of the firsts were: February, 1912, the first play was staged by members and from that time Drama Day has been a feature of each year's program; April 24, 1912, an amendment to the Constitution which provided for an Advisory Board consisting of Officers and Chairmen of Standing Committees; in 1915 the names of the Board of Trustees were first entered in the Year Book; in 1920 a committee on Social Service was appointed; in 1921 a page in the Year Book for the names of Past Presidents; since 1922 a picture of the Club House has been included; in 1925 a Custodian was appointed; 1932 a Guest membership list was added; 1933 sponsors were appointed for a Girl Scout Troop; in 1909 the Collect first appeared in the Year Book, at the suggestion of Mrs. Fannie Cheever Burton who brought it from the State Conference of Women's Clubs.

In 1917 the number of Active members was raised to

seventy-five with twenty-five Associate: about 1930 the Active list was set at one hundred and the Associate at twenty-five: in recent years the Active membership has been raised to one hundred and thirty-five and the Associate unlimited. Dues have varied from \$1.00, \$2.00, \$3.00, \$5.00, \$8.00 and at present \$10.00 for active and \$12.00 for associate members.

Up to 1918 the object of the society read, "The object of this society shall be the mutual improvement of its members through the study of literature, art, science and the vital interests of the day." In 1918 this clause was added, "but also to serve as an energizing and uplifting force for all that makes for civic or community betterment," and so it reads today. True, the chief power at that time was one of persuasive appeal to the fairness of men in "high places", but with their truly feminine approach they found the spirit of chivalry, though anemic, was not yet dead. By 1910 the group had outgrown the south room of the Library, so they rented pleasant rooms in the new Masonic Temple, and the first meeting was held there on October 12, 1910. So they continued meeting in the Red Cross Room or in the dining room of the Temple. In 1913 members learned that the Grant residence at 218 North Washington Street was for sale. This would be a desirable club home. It was one of the older houses of the city having been built in 1842 by Arden Ballard along the lines of the Greek Revival type so popular at that time. There was much discussion pro and con about this project. The price of \$3000.00 seemed a large sum for a small group of women to raise. There was not much time to consider the matter as the place was to be sold at once. It was on December 10, 1913, that the decision was made to purchase the property. The treasury was about empty but a fund of about \$200.00 had been given by Mrs. Ann Bassett for such a purpose, but the members were wondering where the money could be obtained as neither bank was willing to loan money to a group of women. At this critical moment Mrs. Atwood Mc Andrew gained the floor and announced

with pride that Thomas W. McAndrew would grant them a loan of \$2000.00 as he seemed to have more faith in the ability of the women to pay the debt than the presidents of the two banks. With the assurance of this loan Mrs. Kate Thompson Westfall rose to her feet and made the motion to buy the Grant property and the motion passed with only four votes against the action.

It was necessary to incorporate to buy the property and this legal matter was taken care of early in 1914. The first meeting was held in the new Club Home on October 14, 1914. Mrs. Frederick Gorton was president at that time and Mrs. Bennett Kief was the retiring president. The Trustees were: Mrs. Austin George, Mrs. Atwood Mc Andrew, Mrs. Charles Sweet, Mrs. Floyd Westfall and Mrs. Steven Yerkes. The House Committee appointed was Mrs. Louise Humphrey, Mrs. Guy Davis and Mrs. Charles Sweet. The following loaned money without interest: Mrs. Atwood Mc Andrew, Mrs. Bennett Kief, Miss Florence Shultes, Miss Frances Higley and Mrs. Louise Humphrey. The sum total was \$700.00. Many members and interested citizens gave quite generously to the fund. It was soon found that it would be necessary to make repairs and addition to the amount of \$1500.00 to put the place in order. The members worked very hard as they held rummage sales and bake sales and had had dinners and "teas" and bridge parties. The interest shown by individuals outside the Club is reported in a paper given February 23, 1938 by Mrs. P. R. Cleary who was a member of the committee to look over the Grant house and interview the owner. Later she was given the names of ten business men from whom to solicit funds. Mr. Robert Hemphill gave generously and she recalls that on Christmas morning she received a greeting and a check for \$50.00 from President Lewis H. Jones of the Michigan State Normal College.

Now that the ladies have their dream home it remains for them to pay for it. As early as 1896 Mrs. Ann

Bassett had advocated putting money aside for a building fund and she later left a legacy for that purpose only.

The first outside speaker was Judge Harriman of Ann Arbor who gave a lecture on the Life and Writings of John Greenleaf Whittier, in February 1902; an outside speaker was an exception as the purpose of the Club in the beginning was to raise the educational and cultural standards of its members by active participation. Gradually through the years the programs became varied and days of entertainment were featured. In later years a large percentage of the programs have been given by outside speakers. It is thought by some that the pendulum has swung over too far, but there are two schools of thought with good reasons presented on both sides. The social side has been more emphasized with gala days, drama days and "high teas" and dessert luncheons. Through the years the group has never omitted Social Service Day when the members sew for the various helpful agencies in the city.

Debates have been held on questions of the hour and original short stories, poems and musical compositions have been popular features.

For fourteen years the mortgage hovered over the lovely old Club House like a bird of evil omen until the day came when the members celebrated the Fiftieth Anniversary of the Club; it was a golden day, with the scheme carried out in the place cards and candles centered by a bowl of yellow roses, the gift of Mrs. Guy Davis.

At this time \$75.00 was borrowed from the treasury to pay the last amount on the mortgage which was dated February 7, 1914, and burned with proper ceremony in the flames of a taper by Mrs. C. V. Brown, Mrs. Alex Longnecker, the president at that time, presided. Mrs. Guy Davis sent an original poem for the occasion and Mrs. Sarah George delighted her audience with anecdotes and incidents that occurred since she became a

member in 1879. The flames of the taper had scarcely died out before Mrs. Henry Frain proposed that a Sarah George Loan Fund be started and each member was asked to give \$5.00 during the year, and that activities be planned to make the initial amount \$500.00. Mrs. Jennie Keech made the first gift of \$10.00. Mrs. Frain had the plan set up with all the qualifications required for the use of the fund by Ypsilanti High School students who were to be carefully selected for scholarship, leadership and moral character.

The musicians for this "Golden Day" were soloists, Miss Margaret Bennett and Mrs. George Wortley whose lovely voice still lingers in the Club Rooms; and brilliant piano duets by Mrs. Atwood Mc Andrew and Mrs. R. A. Clifford.

The Club has carried out in later years the principles set forth in the second part of the Constitution; they have appealed to the City Fathers for better street lighting, the curfew, improvement of parks and protection for youth. In any issue for the good of the community they have used their united power to influence public opinion; they were the prime movers to see that milk sold here should be clean, and they have been active in the campaigns for liquor control, sanitation and many other vital issues of the day.

In the days of the Chautauquas the members worked faithfully to sell tickets and supported in every way this first-class entertainment that enlivened the summer days; members have cooperated in Red Cross and Community Chest Drives, Blood Donor Days and have had a high record in the South Eastern District for Bond sales; a Girl Scout Troop is sponsored each year; money has been given to help the Carver Community Center, Gilbert House, the Salvation Army and as a Club have cooperated with their country's agencies in all the wars since it was instituted.

For several years some of the members became readers for the blind at the Michigan State Normal

College; in recent years the Community Concert Project has been supported and also the Needlework Guild and more recently have given money for Girls' Town, a project of the State Federation of Clubs.

The Sarah George Loan Fund having reached the \$2000.00 mark in July 1953, has now become a Scholarship Fund and the first student chosen to receive it is an honor student, Miss Betty Ann Curtis.

The Club House has endured many changes through the years and suffered, at least, three operations; first when the metal ceilings were removed and then when in 1937 and 1950 partitions were removed. There was some inward wailing as the walls came down. These operations so necessary to enlarge the seating space were approved by a well-known architect who felt that the need was the first consideration. He feels that it is one of the very fine examples of Greek Revival architecture in the country but there are some features about it, such as the ventilators in the outside pillars that would have startled the Greeks. He commended the various Boards of Trustees who have guarded it and preserved it through the years.

In 1933-34 when so many people were out of work, a group of eight architects under the above mentioned architect, Prof. Emil Lorch, invaded the interesting old house and measured it both inside and out and jotted down figures in their note books; they noticed all its unusual features, its large pillars and metal lace work on the outside and its interesting doorways, aproned windows and Victorian fire-places. It was selected by the Advisory Committee of the American Buildings Survey, "because of its age and architectural interest as being worthy of most careful preservation for future generations" and the document was deposited in the Library of Congress, Washington, D. C.

In 1937 the rooms were made fresh and attractive by

the aid of paper and paint, new curtains and draperies and upholstery. Each year brings some new need for repairs or improvement. Other clubs and societies rent it on a club year basis and wedding receptions "Teas" and other social functions are often held in its charming parlors. Many of the pieces of furniture and floor coverings have been given at some period by members.

The four pleasant rooms occupied by the caretakers in the rear of the house and the stage were additions to the original structure. A cupola once crowned the building but Mr. Grant had it removed.

And so the years pass by and like the sun-dial we have counted the sunny hours but there have been days of discouragement and days of sadness when some of the members are taken by death for not all have lived to "three-score years and ten". In looking over the membership list through the seventy-five years one realizes that the Club has been blessed with many choice and talented "ladies" who have at some time during the period been a loyal member of the Ladies' Literary Club.

At present the Active membership has reached its quota of one hundred thirty-five with nineteen Associate members. Its four Honorary members are: Mrs. C. V. Brown of Kalamazoo, Michigan; Mrs. Henry Frain of Ypsilanti; Mrs. Louise G. Humphrey of Upper Montclair, New Jersey; and Miss Florence Shultes of Detroit, Michigan. The three Life Members are: Mrs. E. A. Mellencamp, Miss Lida Clark, and Mrs. Fred P. Wilber. There are seven guest members.

Perhaps nowhere else in the world can women meet together for mutual benefit, understanding and self-improvement and to do willing service for others as in our beloved United States of America.

We find this in the records, "An old-fashioned club, with an old-fashioned name, in an old-fashioned house, with old-fashioned ideals for right living, right thinking and friendliness".

## PAST PRESIDENTS

★ Mrs. Daniel Putnam .....	1878
★ Mrs. F. K. Owen .....	1878-1879
★ Mrs. B. M. Cutcheon .....	1879-1880
★ Mrs. H. H. Goodison .....	1880-1881
★ Mrs. F. K. Rexford .....	1881-1882
★ Mrs. S. W. George .....	1882-1883
★ Mrs. J. P. Vroman .....	1883-1884
★ Miss Genevieve Walton .....	1884-1885
★ Mrs. J. B. Kinne .....	1885-1887
★ Mrs. W. F. Osband .....	1887-1889
★ Mrs. F. A. Barbour .....	1889-1891
★ Mrs. L. B. Graham .....	1891-1892
★ Miss Lois McMahon .....	1892-1893
★ Mrs. J. P. Vroman .....	1893-1894
★ Mrs. H. E. Dickinson .....	1894-1895
★ Mrs. John Watling .....	1895-1897
★ Mrs. W. H. Sherzer .....	1897-1898
★ Mrs. Elisha Loomis .....	1898-1899
★ Mrs. F. H. Pease .....	1899-1901
★ Mrs. C. C. Wortley .....	1901-1902
★ Miss Abigail Pearce .....	1902-1903
★ Miss Julia Ann King .....	1903-1905
★ Mrs. John Van Fossen .....	1905-1907
★ Mrs. F. E. Westfall .....	1907-1909
★ Mrs. F. C. Burton .....	1909-1910
★ Mrs. S. W. George .....	1910-1912

## PAST PRESIDENTS - Cont'd

★ Mrs. B. W. Kief . . . . .	1912-1914
★ Mrs. F. R. Gorton . . . . .	1914-1916
Mrs. Louise G. Humphrey . . . . .	1916-1917
Mrs. C. V. Brown . . . . .	1917-1919
★ Mrs. B. L. D'Ooge . . . . .	1919-1921
★ Miss Emma Minor . . . . .	1921-1923
Miss Fred P. Wilber . . . . .	1923-1925
★ Miss Mary Putnam . . . . .	1925-1927
Mrs. Alex Longnecker . . . . .	1927-1929
Mrs. Harold DeB Barss . . . . .	1929-1931
Mrs. Atwood Mc Andrew . . . . .	1931-1933
Mrs. Edward George . . . . .	1933-1935
Mrs. Richard Weir . . . . .	1935-1937
Mrs. Elton Rynearson . . . . .	1937-1939
Mrs. Henry FRAIN . . . . .	1939-1941
Mrs. T. Fred Older . . . . .	1941 to Dec., 1942
★ Mrs. Harry L. Smith . . . . .	Dec. 1942-1945
Mrs. Pliny E. Skinner . . . . .	1945-1947
Mrs. Horace Z. Wilber . . . . .	1947-1949
Mrs. Owen J. Cleary . . . . .	1949-1951
Mrs. Ben H. VandenBelt . . . . .	1951-1953

★ Deceased

## OFFICERS - 1953-1954

President . . . . .	Mrs. James Breakey Jr.
First Vice-president . . . . .	Mrs. Franklin C. Potter
Second Vice-president . . . . .	Mrs. Don M. Silkworth
Recording Secretary . . . . .	Mrs. Paul E. Jackson
Corresponding Secretary . . . . .	Mrs. Arthur D. Walker
Treasurer . . . . .	Mrs. Arthur Knaup
Parliamentarian . . . . .	Mrs. Richard A. Weir
Historian . . . . .	Mrs. Pliny E. Skinner
Custodian . . . . .	Mrs. Fred P. Wilber

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Mrs. Pliny E. Skinner - 1958	Mrs. John E. MacAllister-
Mrs. Spencer Davis - 1957	1954
Mrs. Jesse E. Mangas - 1956	
Miss Jessie Swaine - 1955	

## GIFTS

Painting - Madonna and Child (A copy) by Andres del Sarto from the home of Prof. E. A. Strong

Water Color - Peonies by Roccena Norris

Steel Engraving - from the home of Mrs. Nellie Yerkes

Photograph of Mrs. Daniel Putnam from - Mrs. Atwood  
Mc Andrew

Photograph of Mrs. Austin George

Photographs of Mr. & Mrs. Elijah Grant from Miss Lida Clark

Etching - General Ypsilanti and Associates from -  
Miss Helen Sellman

Steel Engravings and Oil Paintings - donors unknown

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Pier Glass - from Mrs. John Watling

Carved Marble-top Table - from Mrs. D.C. Batchelder

Side Board with Marble-top - Mrs. Joseph Sanders

Empire Sofa - Mrs. C. V. Brown

Settee - Mrs. Charles Sweet

Piano - Miss Charlotte King and Miss Julia Ann King

Piano - Mrs. John B. Shepherd

Historical Plates (12) and pedestal table - Mrs. Louise Humphrey

Three small mahogany chairs and tete a tete - Mrs.  
Philander Stevens

Pair of sconces - from Mrs. Benjamin Thompson

Antique clock - from Mrs. Guy Davis

Hall Seat and Mirror - "The Dinner Six"

Books from the Ladies Library Board

Spinning wheel from the Library

Two Plush Albums - Mrs. E. E. Ferguson and Miss  
Lida Clark

Mirror and rocker - from Mrs. Sarah George

A rug, gas stove and refrigerator - Mrs. K. V. Ferguson

Candle sticks with prisms and brass Table Lamp -  
Mrs. George Geer

Bedspread - from Mrs. Frederick Weinmann

Heirloom Lace Tablecloth - from Mrs. Don Silkworth

Rug - from Miss Nora Murphy

## Gifts - Con'd

Hand-painted China candlesticks and other bric-a-brac from Mrs. Edward George

Steel Filing Cabinet, padlock and keys - Mrs. P.E. Skinner

Sarouk Rug from the Florus Barbour Home

Desk - from Mrs. Bennett Kief (made by her father)

The Large Secretary in the Hall belongs to the D.A.R.

The Carved Covered Wagon with Horses - from Miss Minnie Horner belongs to the D.A.R.

Flag and Standard

Fireplace on stage made from the wood from the first partition removed.

Many useful gifts donated at the time of the purchase of the Club House. Also many gifts of money.



